

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to entry of this paper, claims 1-12 and 39-44 were pending in this application. In this paper, claim 1 is amended. Accordingly, claims 1-12 and 39-44 remain pending in the application.

Claim Rejections – Groath

Independent claims 1 and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Groath et al. (USPN 6,571,285) (hereinafter “Groath”). Applicant respectfully submits that Groath does not anticipate these claims.

Generally stated, the present invention is directed at a system for event management that provides a standard set of common event consumers. The use of an object-based event filter enables event information to be abstracted so that it may be processed by an event consumer without knowledge about the event source. More specifically, claim 1, as amended, recites:

An event management system comprising:
a set of event consumers, each event consumer being configured to perform an action in response to an occurrence of an event, [. . .]; and
an event management module configured to create an event filter object having properties that identify events that are intended to cause one or more actions to be performed, the event management module being further configured to bind the event filter object to one or more of the event consumers that are capable of performing the one or more actions, and in the event that any one or more of the identified events occurs, to pass a notice of such occurrence to any event consumers that are bound to the event filter.

In contrast, Groath appears to describe aspects of a system for providing service assurance in a network. The disclosure discusses a system that includes several different types of applications that each perform some function related to network availability. Some of the functionality appears to be event-driven.

The Examiner indicated that Groath teaches an "event filter" at col. 12, lines 33-67. However, Applicants submit that aside from the existence of the word "event," the cited passage bears no resemblance to the "event filter" as recited in the instant application. Rather, the elements discussed by Groath perform tasks such as "correlating network conditions, identify critical problems, filter out superfluous events, and take appropriate actions." Groath, col. 12 lines 35-37. These tasks, and indeed Groath in total, teach little more than an ordinary network management system. Nothing about the ECM described by Groath enables an event to be abstracted so that event consumers can process an event without any knowledge of the event source. In fact, nothing in Groath describes the process of getting an event from an event source to an event consumer. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Groath does not teach an event filter as envisioned by claim 1.

For at least the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by Groath. Given that claims 2-12 depend from claim 1, claims 2-12 are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

Similarly, claim 39 recites:

A computer system comprising:

[...]

an event filter associated with the selected event consumer, the event filter being configured to specify the event and, in response to the occurrence of the event, to deliver information about the occurred event to the event consumer.

As with claim 1, Groath fails to teach the event filter recited. Rather, the passage cited against claim 39 appears to deal with a component for analyzing network performance information, not associating event sources with event consumers. Groath discusses “discovering the environment of a network”, “surveying related systems”, “alarm suppression”, and “automation scripts.” While these may very well be legitimate tasks performed by a network management system, they are completely unrelated to Applicants’ notion of binding events to event consumers, particularly through an event filter. Indeed, the entire Groath disclosure is silent on passing an event from the actual event source to an event consumer. Accordingly, Groath does not teach the event filter envisioned by claim 39.

For at least the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 39 is not anticipated by Groath. Given that claims 40-44 depend from claim 39, claims 40-44 are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that, for the reasons provided above, the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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